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ABSTRACT

This unit on Spanish proverbs for second year students includes five main lessons, each dealing with a different way of using proverbs to teach or reinforce certain grammatical points and vocabulary. Each exercise and suggested vocabulary list also has a corresponding transparency. Lesson one contains 18 Spanish proverbs which have a common English equivalent. The accompanying illustrations should make clear the idea of the proverb without reference to its English translation, and pronunciation of difficult words may be practiced. In lesson two, proverbs are used to practice present tense verb forms, including stem-changing, reflexive, and irregular verbs. In lesson three, proverbs containing imperatives are presented to review familiar and formal command forms. Lesson four includes a group of proverbs that rhyme and were selected for pronunciation practice. In lesson five, proverbs with a common theme have been grouped for vocabulary study. The categories include: women, wisdom, animals, love, and marriage. Lesson five is followed by comments on the appropriate use of a proverb. In lieu of any post-test, supplementary exercises are suggested. If the teacher feels the need for any testing materials, exercises in the packet can easily be converted into testing situations. (SW)

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CIEN REFRANES, CIEN VERDADES

Spanish Proverbs for Second Year Students

Diane Fossum and Jerry Statz
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay
Foreign Language Workshop
Summer 1975

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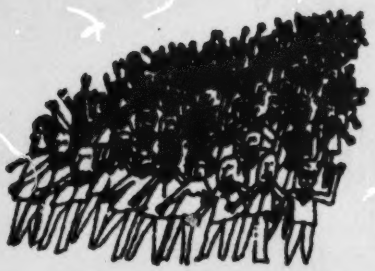

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CONTENTS OF THIS PACKET

This packet includes five main lessons, each dealing with a different way of using proverbs to teach or reinforce certain grammatical points and vocabulary.

Each exercise and suggested vocabulary list also has a corresponding transparency. All transparencies are contained in a separate packet. Therefore the exercises could be mimeographed for individualized instruction or done as a group using the transparencies. *

Teachers will find it helpful to read the list of suggested supplementary activities near the front of the packet.

Lesson five is followed by some comments on the appropriate use of a proverb.

In lieu of any post-test, supplementary exercises are suggested. If the teacher feels the need for any testing materials, he may easily convert exercises in this packet into testing situations or devise his own.

LESSON ONE: Eighteen Spanish proverbs which have a common English equivalent are presented by means of transparencies. The drawing should make clear the idea of the proverb without reference to its English translation. Pronunciation of difficult words may be practiced here.

LESSON TWO: Proverbs are used to practice present tense verb forms. Included are stem-changing, reflexive, and irregular verbs.

LESSON THREE: Proverbs containing imperatives are presented to review familiar and formal command forms.

LESSON FOUR: A group of proverbs which rhyme have been selected for pronunciation practice.

LESSON FIVE: Proverbs with a common theme have been grouped for vocabulary study. The categories include: women, wisdom, animals, love, and marriage.

***This packet contains transparency masters only. Masters can be used for mimeographing, photocopying, or producing transparencies.**

CIEN REFRANES, CIEN VERDADES

Dianne Fossum, Jerry Statz
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay
Foreign Language Workshop
Summer 1975

Under the direction of
Professors Louise Witherell and Raquel Kersten
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

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We want to thank those who helped us with our project. Our gratitude to:

Dr. Raquel Kersten, who edited our work and helped us to understand the Spanish "refranes".

The graphics department of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay for their art work.

The other staff and workshop members for their ideas and support.

The proverbs that we have used were compiled from several different lists of proverbs.

TITLE: CIEN REFRANES, CIEN VERDADES

LANGUAGE: Spanish

SUBJECT: Spanish proverbs

LEVEL: Second Year

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. The student will understand the important role that proverbs play in the Spanish language and culture. He will realize that knowing and understanding proverbs is part of speaking Spanish.

2. The student will be able to use effectively a selected number of proverbs which he has memorized.

3. The student will demonstrate his ability to use certain grammatical structures and vocabulary contained within the proverbs.

EVALUATION: Exercises have been provided to assist the teacher or the student in assessing student progress.

EQUIPMENT: Overhead projector

A. INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDENT

Did you realize that Spanish is a language loaded with proverbs? Experts have stated that unless a speaker uses proverbs frequently, he is not really speaking Spanish.

Before going further, it is important to understand what a proverb is. A proverb is an old and common saying, phrase, or expression which is often repeated.

Spanish proverbs have a special charm, in that many of them reflect the history, manners, and customs of the people. Proverbs are a fun way to learn about some of these customs as well as learning vocabulary and grammatical structures.

For Lesson One let's learn some Spanish proverbs which are also very common in the English language. Study each transparency and try to derive the meaning of the proverb through the drawing and the Spanish at the bottom. Your teacher may also want you to repeat the proverbs for pronunciation practice. After seeing these "proverbs in action," you should have no trouble matching them with their English equivalents.

B. SUGGESTED SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

1. As a follow-up for Lesson One, students should find a picture from a newspaper or magazine to illustrate the idea of a chosen proverb. Here is a list of proverbs which are suitable for this type of activity. They are not translated because each should be interpreted by the student.

   A. A puerta cerrada, el diablo se vuelve.
   B. En tierra de ciegos, el tuerto es rey.
   C. La necesidad es la madre de la ciencia.
   D. No hay camino tan llano que no tenga algun tropezón.
   E. Quien cierra al pobre la puerta, la del cielo no halla abierta.
   F. Quien con perros se acuesta con pulgas se levanta.
   G. Después de la tempestad viene la serenidad.
   H. El oro es rey del mundo.
   I. Entre dos perros amigos, eche un hueso y los verás enemigos.
   J. La pobreza tiene por amiga la tristeza.
   K. Más vale pájaro en mano que ciento volando.
   L. Por la boca muere el pez.
   M. Tío rico siempre tiene muchos sobrinos.
   N. Tenemos que bailar al son que se toca.
   O. Cuando está abierto el cajón, el más honrado es ladrón.

2. Students may be asked to make an original drawing or poster depicting the meaning of a proverb shown in the above list.

3. The student should choose one or more proverbs and write and/or present a short conversation in Spanish to which the proverb would apply.

4. The teacher may select a group of proverbs with which the students will devise a vocabulary list of their own to use as self-evaluation or to quiz fellow students.

5. A game could be played by dividing the class into two teams. One team will give the first half of the proverb and the other team will give the second half.

6. Any proverbs in the master list can be used for any type of matching exercise, with or without English equivalents.

7. Proverbs which have a historical or special cultural significance may be topics for class discussion.

8. Students may be asked to investigate the historical or cultural origin of selected proverbs.

9. Given a general idea or category, the student should find those proverbs which fall into the category.

10. The proverbs can be written on stiff paper, placing only one half of the proverb on each piece. The students will have to find the other half of their proverb. This could be used to find partners for any kind of activity.

11. Many different types of grammatical structures appear in the proverbs. Several types of exercises, in addition to those that appear in this packet, can be devised to review or emphasize them.

The above list includes only a few of the many activities that can be done using proverbs as a teaching tool. Each teacher should feel free to revise or add to these suggestions.

C. THE APPROPRIATE USE OF PROVERBS

In our modern American culture the proverb has lost a good deal of its prominence. However, in the Hispanic culture, the proverb remains a vital fiber in the fabric of communication. The folk wisdom of the proverb is as important for the well-educated Spanish speaker as it is for the common man.

A characteristic of good Spanish is to use proverbs when the opportunity arises. Stated below are a few examples of proverbs and probable situations when they might be used.

1. Más vale estar solo que mal acompañado. When a single girl is asked why she isn't married, this proverb would be an appropriate response.

2. Donde hubo fuego, ceniza queda. A husband or wife may now have a friend who was once a lover before the marriage. Now people think it would be better not to have contact with this former lover for fear of a relationship beginning again.

3. Quien a buen árbol se arrima buena sombra le cobija. This proverb is used mainly in a political situation. The idea here is that one who has a friend in politics will be protected by him.

4. Zapatero a tus zapatos. When a person begins to express an opinion on something about which he knows little or nothing, this proverb is used to tell him to stick to his own trade or with things he is familiar.

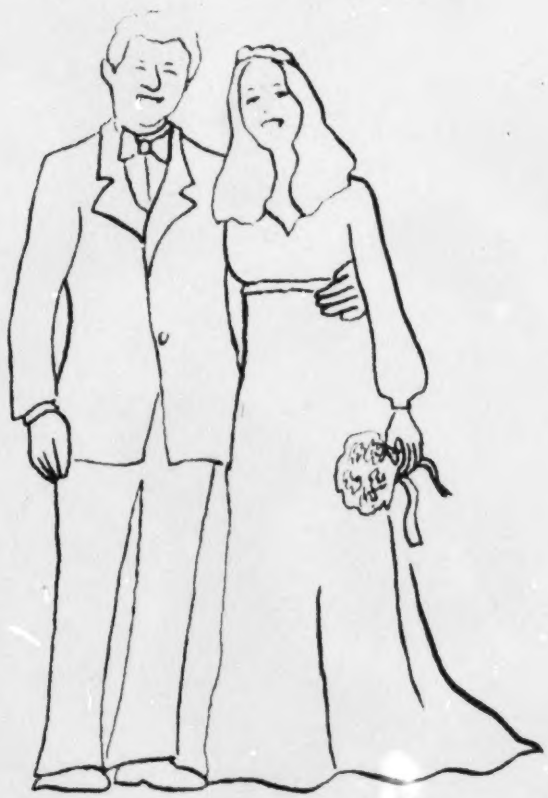
5. Ya que la casa se quema calentémonos. When a person is in an unpleasant situation (financial), this proverb advises him to make the best of it.

Many proverbs appear in Don Quijote, the most famous work of Spanish literature. Sancho Panza very often uses proverbs that, according to don Quijote, do not fit the situation. On one occasion, the famous knight gives this very Spanish explanation of the use of proverbs:

> - Mira, Sancho - respondió don Quijote - yo traigo los refranes a propósito, y vienen cuando los digo como anillo en el dedo; pero tráeslos tan por los cabellos, que los arrastras, y no los guías; y si no me acuerdo mal, otra vez te he dicho que los refranes son sentencias breves, sacadas de la experiencia y especulación de nuestros antiguos sabios; y el refrán que no viene a propósito, antes es disparata que sentencia.[1]

[1]Cervantes, Don Quijote De La Mancha, Las Americas Publishing Company, New York, New York, 1958, p. 1028.

A MAL TIEMPO
BUENA CARA.



ANTES QUE TE CASES,
MIRA LO QUE HACES.

EL AMIGO EN LA ADVERSIDAD,

ES AMIGO DE VERDAD.

EL ÁRBOL SE CONOCE
POR SU FRUTO.

EL BIEN QUE PUEDAS HACER HOY, NO LO DEJES PARA MAÑANA.

El ejercicio hace maestro.

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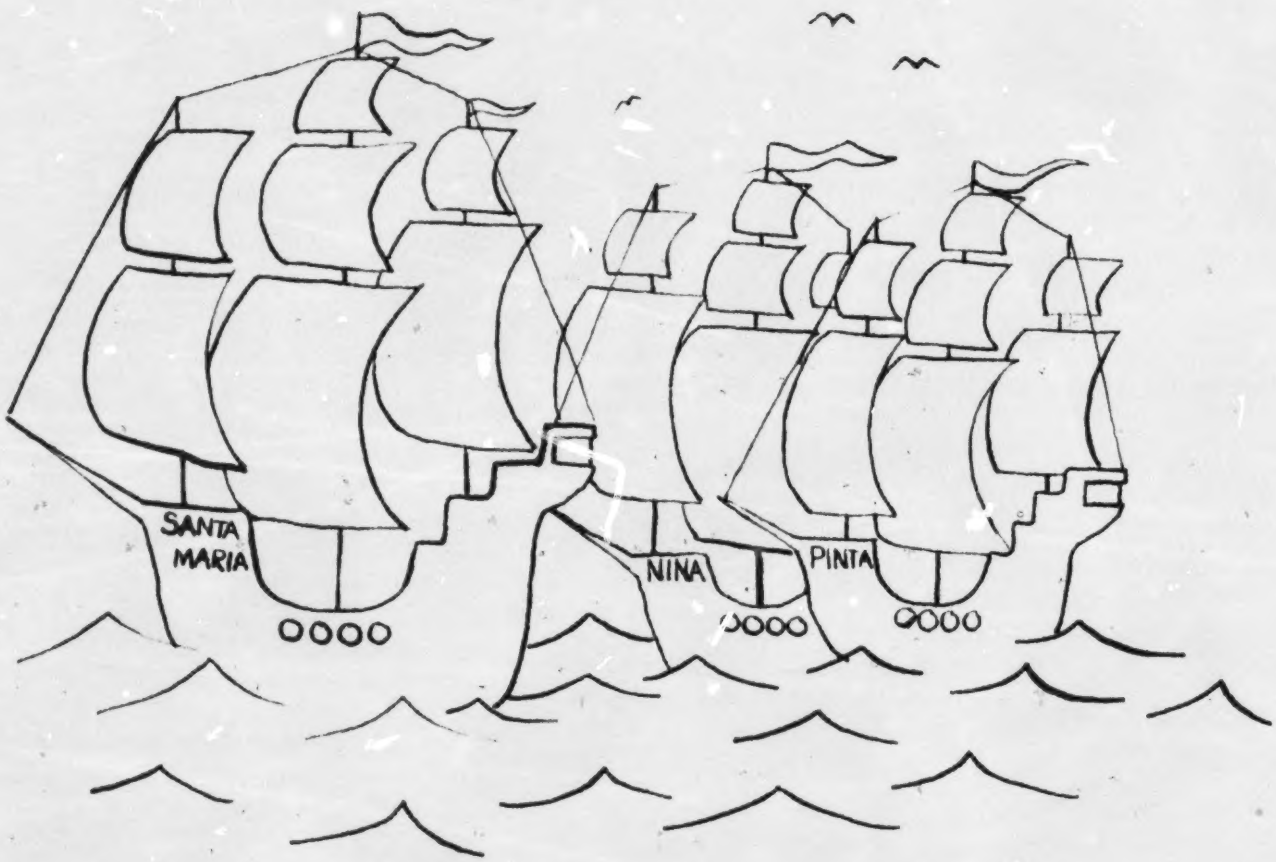
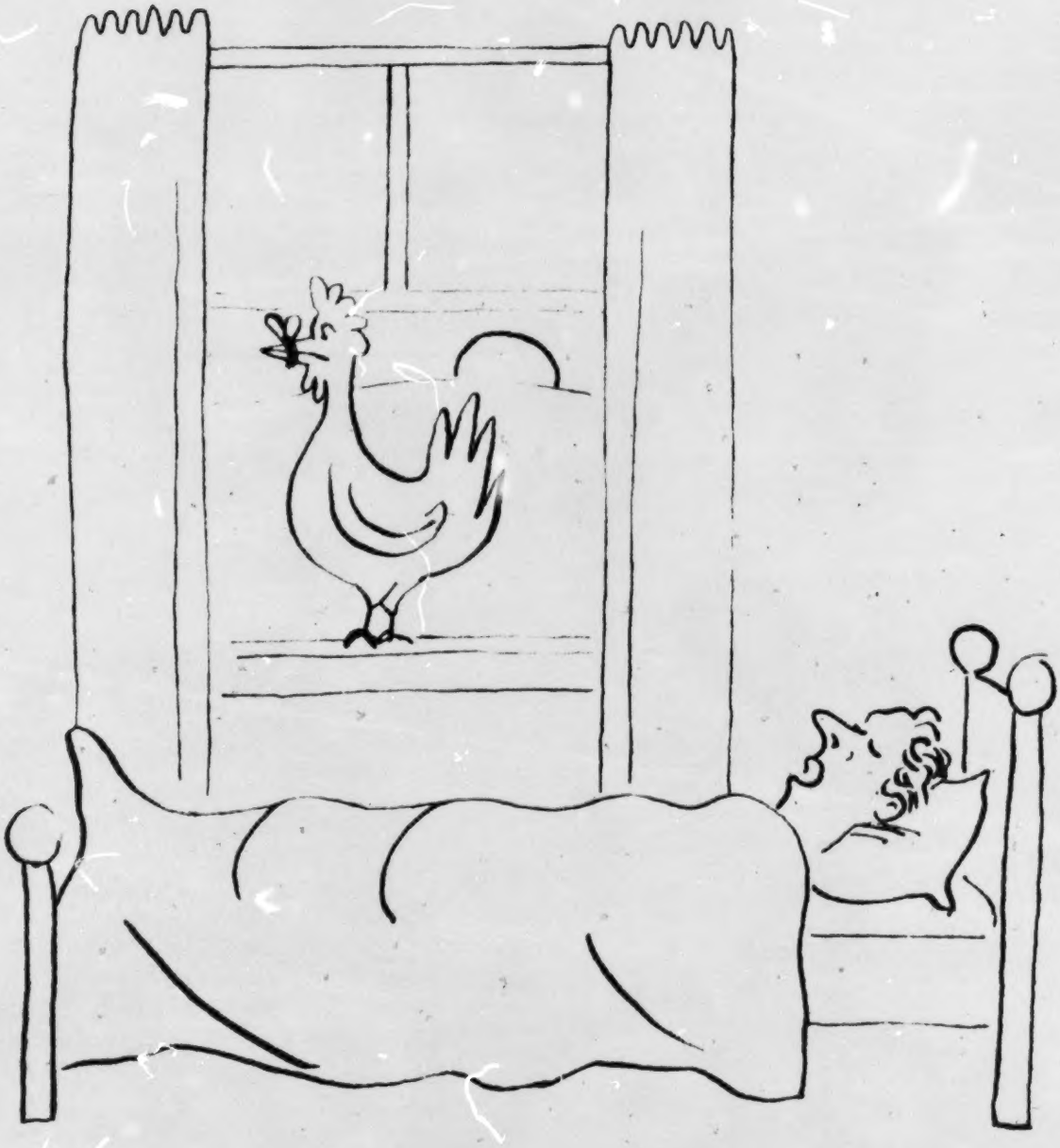
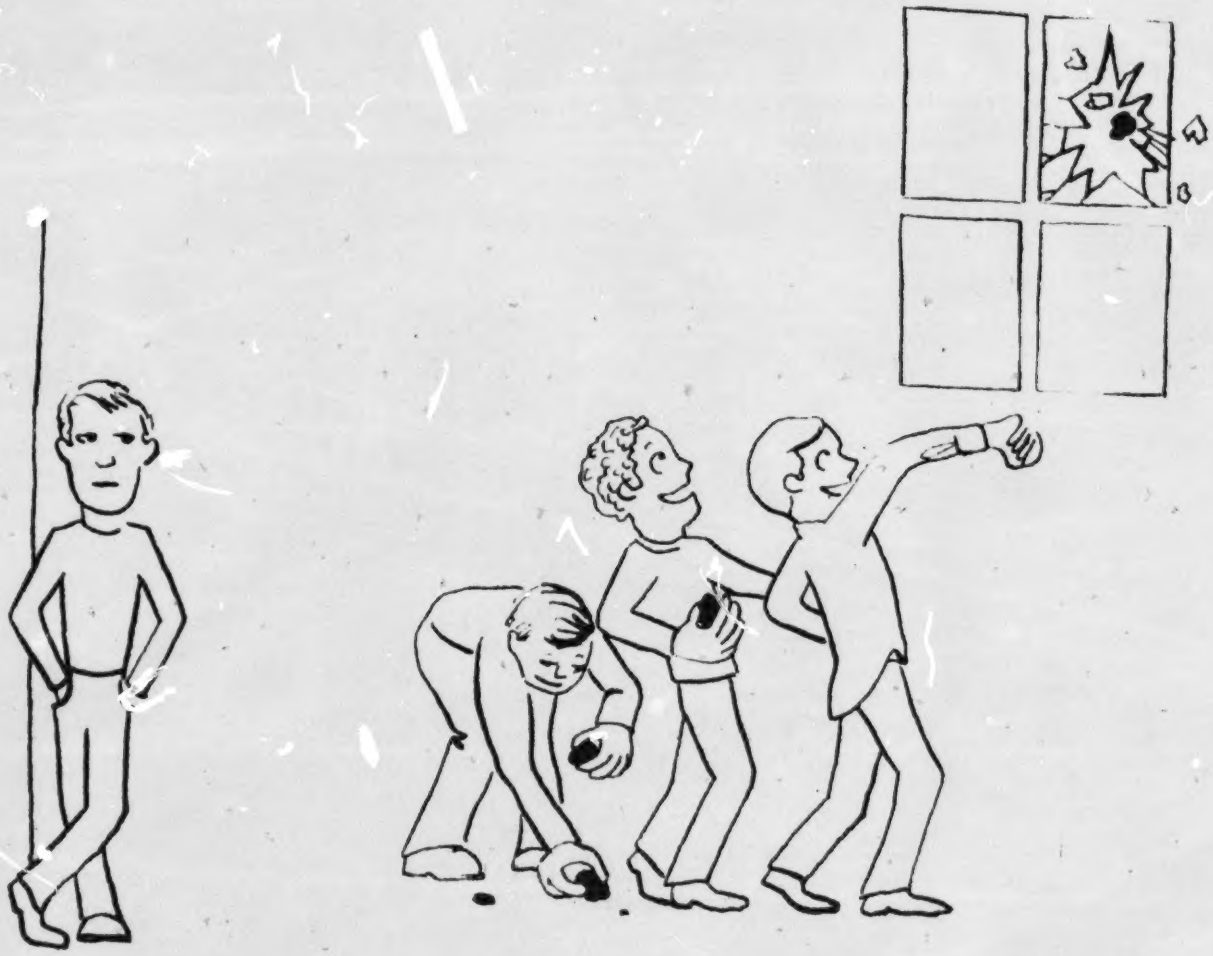


EL QUE NO SE AVENTURA
NO CRUZA EL MAR.

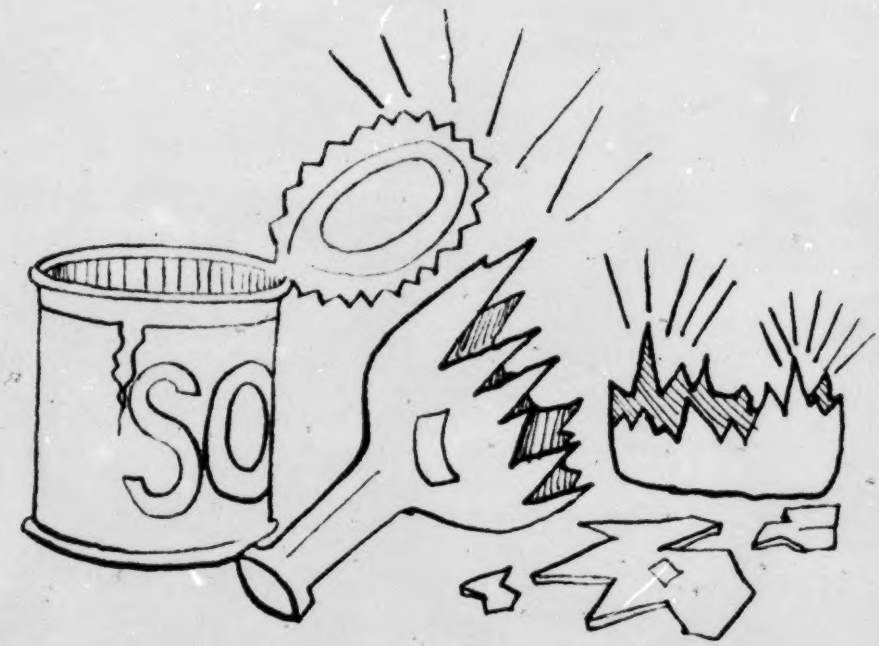


EN BOCA CERRADA
NO ENTRAN MOSCAS.



MÁS VALE ESTAR SOLO
QUE MAL ACOMPAÑADO.

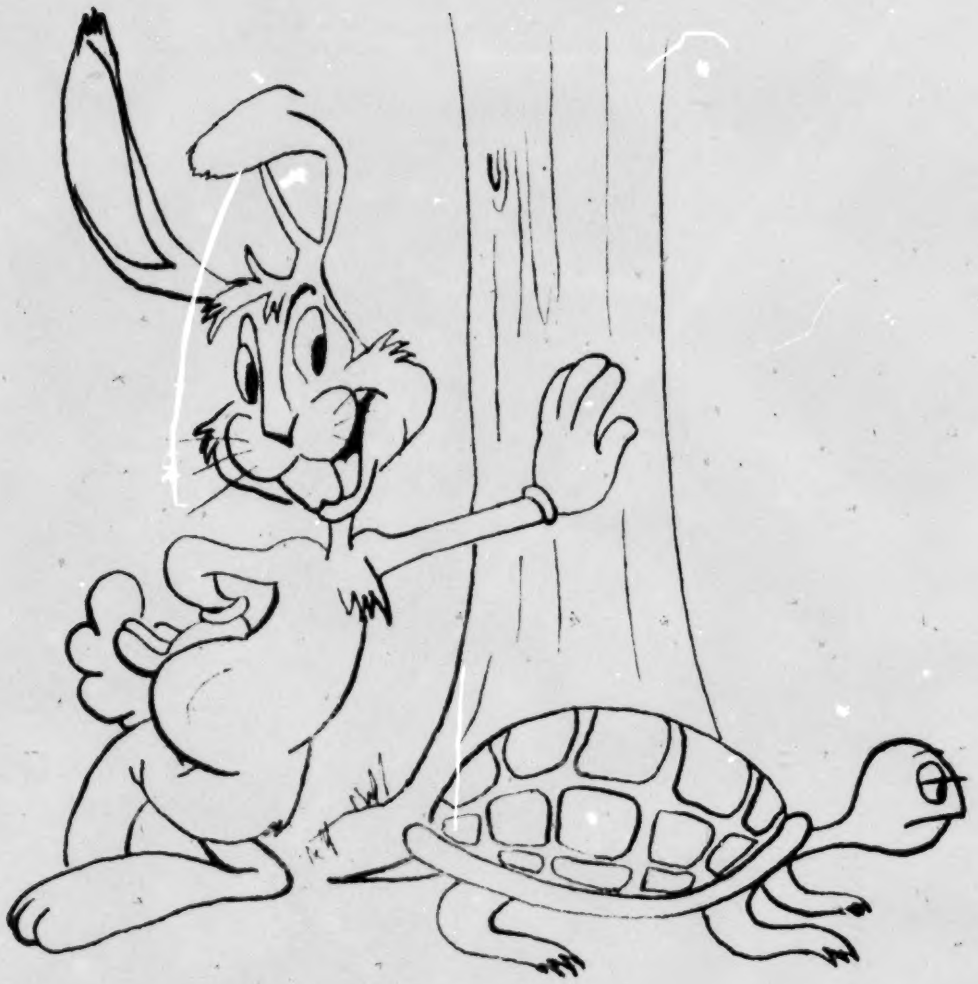
MÁS VALE TARDE QUE NUNCA.



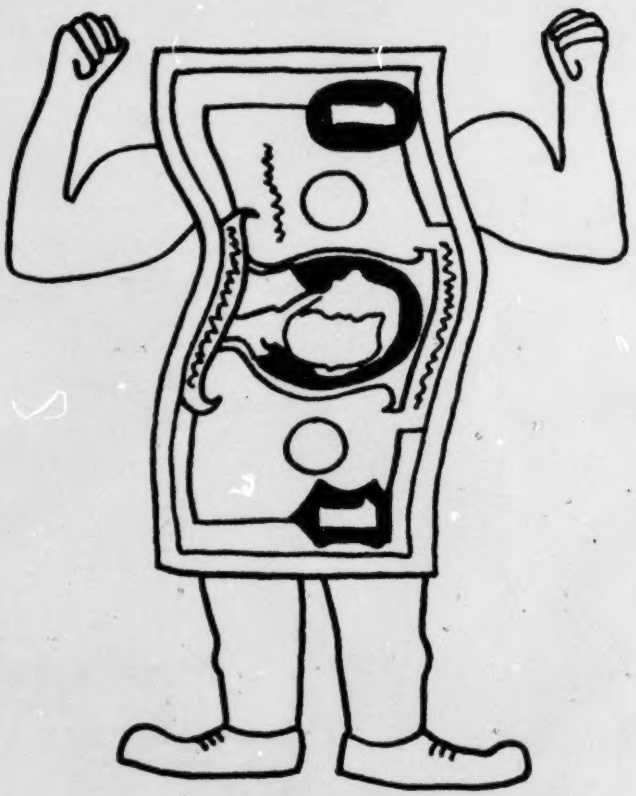
NO ES ORO TODO LO QUE RELUCE.

NO HAY ROSA SIN ESPINAS.

PIEDRA QUE RUEDA
NO CRÍA MUSGO.

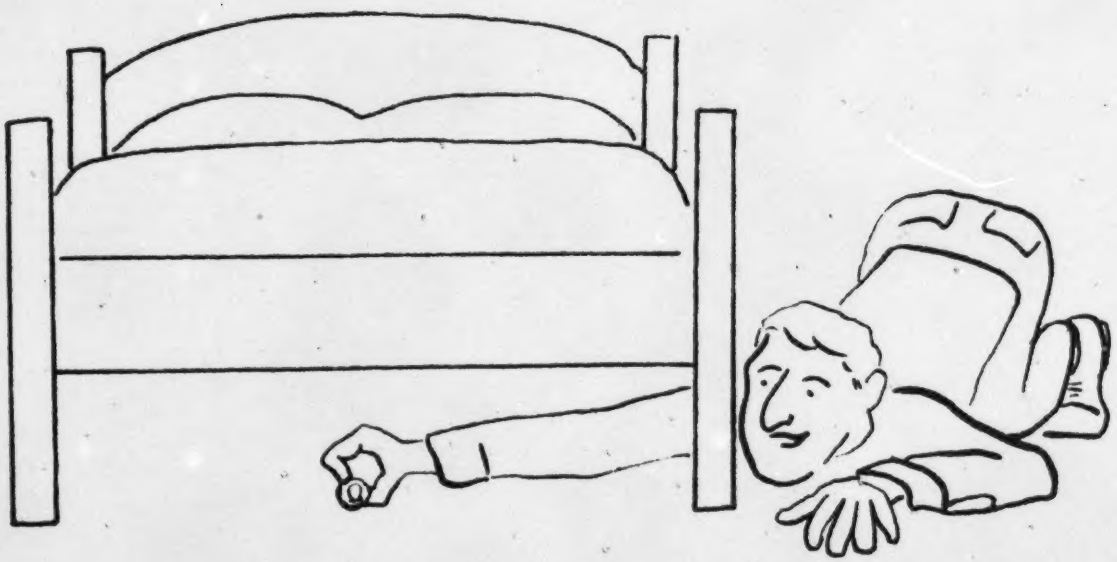


POCO A POCO
SE VA LEJOS.



PODEROSO CABALLERO

ES DON DINERO.



QUIEN BUSCA, HALLA.

TAL PADRE, TAL HIJO.

VER ES CREER.

Lesson I

1. El amigo en la adversidad, es amigo de verdad
2. El ejercicio hace maestro
3. No es oro todo lo que reluce
4. Antes que te cases, mira lo que haces
5. Quien busca, halla
6. A mal tiempo buena cara
7. El bien que puedas hacer hoy, no lo dejes para mañana
8. En boca cerrada no entran moscas
9. El que no se aventura no cruza el mar
10. Ver es creer
11. Poco a poco se va lejos
12. Piedra que rueda no cría musgo
13. Más vale tarde que nunca
14. Más vale estar solo que mal acompañado
15. Poderoso caballero es don dinero
16. No hay rosa sin espinas
17. El árbol se conoce por su fruto
18. Tal padre, tal hijo

Lesson 1

A. Seeing is believing
B. Like father, like son
C. Silence is golden
D. A friend in need, is a friend indeed.
E. Nothing ventured, nothing gained
F. A rolling stone gathers no moss
G. Practice makes perfect
H. There is no rose without thorns
I. Better late than never
J. All that glitters is not gold
K. A tree is known by its fruit
L. Money talks
M. Little by little one goes a long way
N. Better alone than in bad company
O. Before you marry, look at what you're doin
P. Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today.
Q. He who seeks, finds
R. Smile in the face of adversity.

Lesson 2 Match the proverbs. Identify each stem-changing and reflexive verb. Give the infinitive for each underlined verb.

1. A la puerta cerrada el diablo se vuelve
2. De la mano a la boca se pierde la sopa
3. En tierra de ciegos el tuerto es rey
4. A buen hambre no hay pan duro
5. Barco que mandan muchos pilotos, pronto se va a pique
6. El hombre propone y Dios dispone
7. La caridad empieza con nosotros mismos
8. Lo que bien se aprende no se olvida
9. A quien madruga, Dios le ayuda
10. Quien tiene tienda, que la atienda

A. In the land of the blind, the one eyed is king.
B. Charity begins at home.
C. Too many cooks spoil the broth.
D. There's many a slip between the cup and the lip.
E. The early bird catches the worm.
F. The devil turns away from a closed door.
G. Hunger is the best sauce.
H. Everyone to his own business.
I. Man proposes and God disposes.
J. What is well learned is not forgotten.

Lesson 2 - Suggested Vocabulary List

1. Volverse - to turn away, around
2. Ciegos - blind
3. tuerto - one-eyed
4. duro - hard
5. irse a pique - to sink
6. proponer - to propose
7. disponer - to dispose
8. olvidar - to forget
9. madrugar - to get up early
10. atender - to take care of

Lesson 3 Imperatives. Many proverbs appear in command form. Match the proverbs, then identify each imperative & change it from familiar to formal.

1. Haz bien y no mires a quien
2. El bien que puedas hacer hoy no lo dejes para mañana
3. Antes que te cases mira lo que haces
4. No temas mancha que sale con agua
5. Al caballo de presente no le mires el diente
6. No firmes carta que no leas, no bebas aqua que no veas
7. Come para vivir y no vivas para comer
8. Mata el lobito cuando es chiquito
9. No te cases con viejo por la moneda, el dinero se acaba y el viejo se queda
10. Entre padres y hermanos no metas las manos

A. Don't look a gift horse in the mouth.
B. Eat to live, don't live to eat.
C. Do good to all.
D. Before you marry look what you're doing.
E. Don't interfere in family squabbles.
F. Don't sign a letter without reading it and don't drink water before seeing it.
G. Don't put off until tomorrow, what you can do today.
H. Don't worry about trivialities.
I. Don't marry an old man for his money. The money goes but the old man remains.
J. Take care of your problems while they're small.

Lesson 3 Suggested Vocabulary

1. mancha - spot
2. diente - tooth
3. firmar - to sign
4. matar - to kill
5. lobito - young wolf
6. chiquito - very small
7. moneda - money
8. acabarse - to disappear, go away
9. quedar - to remain
10. meter - to put

Lesson4 Pronounce the Spanish proverbs, and underline the rhyming words; then find the equivalent meaning in English.

1. Donde hay amor, hay dolor
2. Si a Roma fueres, haz como vieres
3. Al caballo de presente, no le mires el diente
4. Donde está más hondo el río, hace menos ruido
5. Secreto dicho a mujer, secreto deja de ser
6. Cada día que amanece, el número de los tontos crece
7. Los niños y los refranes dicen las verdades
8. Un loco tira una piedra en el mar y veinte sabios no la pueden sacar
9. Quien quiere a Romero, quiere a su perro
10. Los buenos se van, y los malos se están

A. He who loves Romero, loves his dog.
B. A crazy man throws a stone in the sea, and twenty wise men can't get it out.
C. Where there is love, there is sorrow.
D. A secret told to a woman, stops being a secret.
E. Children and proverbs tell the truth.
F. Still water runs deep.
G. The good go away, and the bad remain.
H. Don't look a gift horse in the mouth.
I. When in Rome, do as the Romans do.
J. Each day that dawns, the number of fools grows.

Lesson 4 Suggested Vocabulary List

1. haz (hacer) - do
2. fueres (fueras) you go
3. vieres (vieras-ver) you see
4. hondo - deep
5. dejar de - to stop
6. amanecer - to dawn
7. sabios - wise men
8. se estan - (estar se) remain
9. piedra - stone
10. tontos - dumb ones
11. el diente - tooth

Lesson 5 Mujeres

1. Secreto dicho a mujer, secreto deja de ser
2. No hay mayor pena que perder una mujer buena.
3. El consejo de la mujer es poco, y el que no lo toma es loco
4. El hombre en la plaza, y la mujer en la casa.
5. Casa sin mujer pobre ha de ser
6. Diez mujeres, cien pareceres
7. En el hombre prudencia, y en la mujer paciencia.
8. La gran dama debe tener trez ezas: belleza, nobleza y riqueza
9. La mujer sabe una palabra más que el diablo
10. Las mujeres y los jarros de barro, no se puede devolver.
11. Mujer celosa, leona furiosa
12. No te cases con mujer que te gane el saber
13. Sin mujeres y sin comeres, no hay placeres
14. Sin mujeres y sin vientos, tendríamos menos tormentos

Lesson 5 Mujeres Suggested Vocabulary

1. pena - pain, penalty
2. consejo - advice
3. haber de - must
4. pareceres - opinions
5. belleza - beauty
6. riqueza - wealth
7. los jarros de barro - clay jars
8. devolver - to return
9. celosa - jealous
10. casarse - to marry
11. ganar - to defeat, to win out over
12. comeres - food
13. placeres - pleasures
14. vientos - winds
15. tormentos - storms

Lesson 5 Sabiduría

1. Tonto que calla por sabio pasa
2. Nadie sabe lo que puede, hasta que la prueba
3. El ignorante que es callado, por sabio es reputado
4. Mejor es ser corregido de los sabios que alabado de los necios
5. Quien sabe que no sabe, algo sabe.
6. El tiempo da buen consejo
7. Más puede un necio negar que Aristóteles probar
8. Más sabe el tonto en su casa que el sabio en la ajena
9. Un loco tira una piedra en el mar y veinte sabios no la pueden sacar
10. Al buen entendedor pocas palabras bastan
11. Después del daño cada uno es sabio
12. Hay que escuchar los consejos de los sabios y los viejos
13. Más vale callar lo que sabe que decir lo que no sabe.
14. Oír, ver, y callar son cosas de gran preciar
15. No es sabio el que mucho sabe, sino el que lo importante sabe
16. Los niños y los refranes dicen las verdades
17. Hay más refranes que panes

Lesson 5 Sabiduría Suggested Vocabulary

1. callar - to be quiet
2. probar - to try, test, prove
3. alabado - praised
4. necios - stupid
5. consejo - advice
6. ajena - another's
7. daño - damage, hurt
8. preciar - estimate, value
9. sino - but
10. tonto - foolish one
11. corregido - corrected

Lesson 5 Animales

1. Quien con perros se acuesta, con pulgas se levanta.
2. Al caballo de presente, no le mires el diente.
3. Cuando el gato va a sus devociones, bailan los ratones.
4. Mata el lobito cuando es chiquito.
5. En la boca cerrada no entran moscas.
6. Quien con lobos anda, a aullar aprende.
7. Cada oveja con su pareja
8. Cuando lo zorra predica, no están seguros los pollos.
9. Entre dos perros amigos eche un hueso y los verás enemigos.
10. Loca es la oveja que al lobo se confiesa.
11. Más vale pájaro en mano que ciento volando
12. Peso cambiado es caballo desbocado.
13. Por la boca muere el pez.
14. Vaca de muchos, bien ordenada y mal alimentada.

Lesson 5 Animales Suggested Vocabulary

1. acostarse - to go to bed
2. pulgas - fleas
3. devociones - devotions, prayers
4. matar - to kill
5. lobito - little wolf
6. moscas - flys
7. aullar - to howl
8. oveja - sheep
9. predicar - to preach
10. echar - to throw
11. hueso - bone
12. volar - to fly
13. desbocado - runaway
14. el pez - fish
15. alimentada - fed

Lesson 5 Amor

1. Afortunado en juego, desgraciado en amores.
2. Amor con celos causa desvelos
3. Con amor y aguardiente, nada se siente.
4. Donde hay amor hay dolor
5. Mucho sufre quien bien ama.
6. Los amores entran riendo y salen llorando y gimiendo.
7. Para el mal de amores no hay doctores.
8. Quien bien te quiere, te hará llorar
9. Quien supo olvidar no supo amar.
10. El amor es dulce carga, pero al fin amarga.
11. El amor y los celos son hermanos gemelos.
12. Gran amor es dolor
13. Mal amigo y mal amor olvidarlos es mejor.
14. Quien se casa por amores ha de vivir con dolores.

Lesson 5 Amor Suggested Vocabulary

1. afortunado - lucky
2. juego - game
3. celos - jealousy
4. aguardiente - brandy
5. desvelos - anxiety, concern
6. gimiendo - whining
7. amarga - bitter
8. gemelos - twins
9. haber de - must
10. olvidarlos - to forget them
11. sufrir - to suffer
12. desgraciado - unfortunate
13. sentirse - to feel
14. supo (saber)-found out, learned

Lesson 5 Casamiento

1. Casamientos de pobres, fábrica de limosneros.
2. Casarás y amansarás.
3. El día que te casas, o te curas o te matas.
4. La malcasada tratos tendrá con la criada.
5. Quien se casa por amores ha de vivir con dolores.
6. Si quieres saber como es, vive con él un mes.
7. Antes que te cases, mira lo que haces.
8. El día que me casé, buena cadena me eché.

Lesson 5 Casamiento

1. casamiento - marriage
2. limosneros - beggers
3. amansar - to tame
4. curarse - to get over, recover from
5. haber de - must
6. dolores - pain, sorrow
7. cadena - chain
8. tratos - friendly relations
9. malcasada - mismatched